TERRY MINOR SMITH

VS. NO. 134314 DIV.

DOLLAR GENERAL

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF St. Mary

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PETITION IN SUIT FOR DAMAGES

The petition of TERRY MINOR SMITH, a resident of the full age of majority of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, hereinafter simply referred to as "Petitioner", respectfully represents that:

I.

The Defendants is DOLLAR GENERAL, a foreign corporation authorized to do and doing business in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana.

Π.

The Defendant is liable unto your Petitioner for a reasonable sum, for the following reasons, towit:

Ш.

On or about May 25, 2019, Petitioner, TERRY MINOR SMITH, while shopping at the premises known as DOLLAR GENERAL in Baldwin, Louisiana, leased, operated and/or controlled by defendant, DOLLAR GENERAL, tripped and fell on a crack in the concrete of the store, sustaining serious injury to her person, embarrassment, pain and mental anguish. This accident resulted in serious and permanent injuries to Petitioner as more fully set forth below.

IV.

On the aforesaid date, the flooring where Petitioner fell in the premises was dangerous and hazardous. The cracked concrete was allowed to remain in a hazardous condition.

The area where Petitioner tripped and fell is an area where the personnel and employees of DOLLAR GENERAL can easily observe. Despite the fact that the said concrete was hazardous, Defendant, its employees and agents took no action to properly repair it until after Petitioner had tripped and fell.

VI.

The management and/or employees of **DOLLAR GENERAL** were fully aware of the defective condition of the concrete, and the fact that it was not properly repaired. In spite of this knowledge and these hazardous circumstances, Defendant took no action whatsoever to prevent the injuries sustained by Petitioner in this matter.

VII.

Petitioner avers that the sole proximate cause of the hereinabove described accident is as a result of the negligence and acts of omission of the Defendant, DOLLAR GENERAL, which negligence and omissions consist of, but are not limited to, the following, to-wit:

- (A) In carelessly and negligently failing to provide protection from a reasonably foreseeable hazard and to maintain the premises in a reasonably safe condition at all times;
- (B) In carelessly and negligently failing to provide a safe place for Petitioner to walk while in the premises;
- In carelessly and negligently failing to warn Petitioner of the condition of the concrete of the premises;
- (D) In carelessly and negligently failing to have the concrete safe;
- (E) In carelessly and negligently failing to exercise ordinary care and prudence to keep the concrete in a reasonable safe condition for its customers;
- (F) In carelessly and negligently failing to employ reasonable inspection and clean-up procedures to see that the concrete was free from extraneous substances;
- (G) In carelessly and negligently allowing the concrete of the subject premises to remain hazardous, despite knowledge by Defendant;
- (H) In carelessly and negligently not taking the necessary care, to provide a safe place for their customers despite full knowledge of the existence of the above-mentioned and other hazardous circumstances and due to the carelessness and lack of proper upkeep of the building in general.

VIII.

Petitioner alleges that at all times pertinent hereto, TERRY MINOR SMITH, did nothing to contribute to the causation of this accident and injuries sustained as described herein.

IX

Petitioner, TERRY MINOR SMITH, shows that as a result of the negligence, recklessness, and acts of omission of the Defendant, she has suffered damages hereinbelow set forth in the following

non-exclusive particulars, to-wit:

- Past, present, and future medical expenses; (a)
- Past, present, and future pain and suffering; (b)
- Past, present, and future mental anguish, distress, and (c) emotional upset;
- Incidental and medical expenses incurred as a result of this (d) accident;
- Damage to her body, including neck, back, spinal column, bruises (e) and contusions about the body, knees;
- Loss of wages and earning capacity; past, present and future; and, (f)
- Such other damages as will be shown at the time of trial of this (g) matter.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner prays that Defendant be served with a copy of this petition and cited to answer the same within the legal delays allowed by law, then, after lapse of all legal delays and due proceedings had, there be judgment herein in favor of the Petitioner, TERRY MINOR SMITH, and against the defendant, DOLLAR GENERAL, for all amounts to which Petitioners are entitled to recover together with legal interest thereon from date of judicial demand until paid and for all costs of these proceedings. PETITIONER FURTHER PRAYS for all other general and equitable relief due under the circumstances.

BY ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER:

THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ

NO. 8877

Mahfouz Law Firm, L.L.C.

POST OFFICE DRAWER 2526

MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA 70381-2526

985-384-1833

PLEASE SERVE DEFENDANT:

Dollar General

through its agent for service of process

RECEIVED AND FILED

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 10/25/2019 Seq: 48 Page Sequence: 3

CITATION

TERRYMINORSMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div"D"

DOLLARGENERAL



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

To: DOLLAR GENERAL, THROUGH ITS AGENT, NORTHWEST REGISTERED AGENT, LLC, 201 RUE BEAUREGARD; STE. 202, LAFAYETTE, LA 70508

You are hereby cited to comply with the demand contained in the petition, a certified copy of which accompanies this citation or to file your answer or other pleading to said petition in the office of the Clerk of the 16th Judicial District Court in the St. Mary Parish Court House in the City of Franklin in said Parish within fifteen (15) days after the service hereof. Your failure to comply herewith will subject you to the penalty of entry of default judgment against you.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF OFFICE AT FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA, NOVEMBER 4, 2019.

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Jumps or Horane

Deputy Clerk of Court

SPACE BELOW FOR SHERIFF'S RETURN

CLIFF DRESSEL

CLERK, ST. MARY PARISH P. O. DRAWER1231 FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA 70538

Date Mailed: NOVEMBER 4, 2019

TO:

LAFAYETTE PARISH SHERIFF P.O. DRAWER 3508 LAFAYETTE, LA 70502-

TERRY MINOR SMITH

Vs. NO. 134314 DIV D

DOLLAR GENERAL

The following listed items have been issued for service. After service is made, please send your return stating the type of service along with your statement of cost. If service can not be made, please state reason. Thank you for your prompt attention.

CITATION AND PETITION issued for service on: DOLLAR GENERAL THROUGH ITS AGENT, NORTHWEST REGISTERED AGENT, LLC, 201 RUE BEAUREGARD; STE. 202, LAFAYETTE, LA 70508

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Deputy Clerk of Court

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 11/4/2019 Seq: 45 Page Sequence: 1

LOUISIANA CIVIL CASE REPORTING Civil Case Cover Sheet - LA. R.S. 13:4688 and Part G, §13, Louisiana Supreme Court General Administrative Rules

This civil case cover sheet shall be completed by counsel for the petitioner, counsel's authorized representative, or by the self-represented litigant (if not represented by counsel) and submitted with the original petition filed with the court. The information should be the best available at the time of filing. This information does not constitute a discovery request, response or supplementation, and is not admissible at trial.

Terry Minor Smith VS. Dollar General Suit Caption: Court: 16th JDC Docket Number: OCT 2 5 2019 Parish of Filing: St. Many Filing Date: Thomas L. Mahfouz Name of Lead Petitioner's Attorney: Name of Self-Represented Litigant: Number of named defendants: Number of named petitioners: Type of Lawsuit: Please check the categories which most appropriately apply to this suit (no more than 3 categories should be checked): Auto: Personal Injury Auto: Property Damage Auto: Uninsured Motorist Auto: Wrongful Death Asbestos: Personal Injury/Death Asbestos: Property Damage Premise Liability Product Liability Intentional Property Damage Intentional Bodily Injury Unfair Business Practice Intentional Wrongful Death Business Tort Fraud Professional Negligence Defamation Medical Malpractice Environmental Tort Toxic Tort Intellectual Property Other Tort (describe below) Legal Malpractice Redhibition Other Professional Malpractice Class action (nature of case) Maritime Wrongful Death General Negligence Please briefly describe the nature of the litigation in one sentence of additional detail: Following the completion of this form by counsel, counsel's representative, or by the self-represented litigant, this document will be submitted to the Office of the Judicial Administrator, Supreme Court of Louisiana, by the Clerk of Court. Name, address and contact information of person completing formation Thomas L. Mahfouz Signature Post Office Box 2526, Morgan City, LA 70381 Address E-mail address: krista@teche.net Phone number: 985-384-1833

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 11/5/2019 Seq: 43 Page Sequence: 1

NOTICE OF SERVICE

TERRYMINORSMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div"D"

DOLLARGENERAL



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ MAHFOUZ LAW FIRM, LLC P.O. BOX 2526 MORGAN CITY, LA 70381-2526

Pleading Served: CITATION AND PETITION

Party Served: DOLLAR GENERAL

Date Served: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 06, 2019

Type of Service: PERSONAL - HEIDI ROMENE

Notified on: November 21, 2019

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Grinfer R. Belane

Deputy Clerk of Court

CITATION



TERRY MINOR SMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div "D"

DOLLAR GENERAL





STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

To: DOLLAR GENERAL, THROUGH ITS AGENT, NORTHWEST REGISTERED AGENT, LLC, 201 RUE BEAUREGARD; STE. 202, LAFAYETTE, LA 70508

You are hereby cited to comply with the demand contained in the petition, a certified copy of which accompanies this citation or to file your answer or other pleading to said petition in the office of the Clerk of the 16th Judicial District Court in the St. Mary Parish Court House in the City of Franklin in said Parish within fifteen (15) days after the service hereof. Your failure to comply herewith will subject you to the penalty of entry of default judgment against you.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF OFFICE AT FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA, NOVEMBER 4, 2019.

L.P.S.O. Badge#

ACTUAL SERVICE MILEAGE: 6.0

CLIFF DRESSEL
Clerk of Court
St. Mary Parish, Louisiana
16th Judicial District Court

Grinfer R. Aglane

Deputy Clerk of Court



SPACE BELOW FOR SHERIFF'S RETURN

SHERIFF'S RETURN
LAFAYETTE PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE

DATE SERVED_

PERSONAL (A

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OTHER REASON TO UTL'

COST: SERVICE

ILEAN STALL

. RECEIVED

NOV 13 2013

[ORIGINAL]

*CLIFF DRESSEL CLERK OF COURT ST. MARY PARISH, LA

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 11/13/2019 Seq: 41 Page Sequence: 1

TERRY MINOR SMITH

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

VS. NO. 134314 D

PARISH OF St. Mary

DOLLAR GENERAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PLAINTIFF'S FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING PETITION

The First Supplemental and Amending Petition of TERRY MINOR SMITH,

Plaintiff herein, who desires to supplement and amend his Original Petition filed herein, in the
following respects:

 By amending the Petition in all places where the defendant's name is referred to as "DOLLAR GENERAL", to read" DOLGENCORP, LLC d/b/a DOLLAR GENERAL."

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, reiterating the prayer of his original Petition as set forth in length herein, prays that he be allowed to file this First Supplemental and Amending Petition, and that Defendants be served with a copy of this First Supplemental and Amending Petition and cited to answer same within the legal delays allowed by law, then, after the lapse of all legal delays and due proceedings had that there be judgment herein in favor of Plaintiff, TERRY MINOR SMITH, and against Defendants, DOLGENCORP, LLC d/b/a DOLLAR GENERAL, in a reasonable amount to compensate them for the damages which they have sustained herein. Plaintiff further prays for such other legal and equitable relief.

BY ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:

THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ #8877

Mahfouz Law Firm, JC.L.C.

1201 Brashear Avenue, Suite 201

Post Office Box 2526

Morgan City, LA 70381

(985) 384-1833

PLEASE SERVE DEFENDANT WITH THE ORIGINAL PETITION AND FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING PETITION:

DOLGENCORP, LLC d/b/a DOLLAR GENERAL

through its agent for service of process, Corporation Service Company 501 Louisiana Avenue Baton Rouge, LA 70802

RECEIVED AND FILED

JAN 2 4 2020 April 1 M Curblanc Dy. Clerk of Court

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 1/24/2020 Seq: 39 Page Sequence: 1

SUPPLEMENTAL CITATION

TERRYMINORSMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div"D"

DOLGENCORPLLC DBA, ET AL



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

To: <u>DOLGENCORP LLC DBA THROUGH ITS REGISTERED AGENT</u>

<u>CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 501 LOUISIANA AVENUE BATON ROUGE</u>

LA 70802

You are hereby cited to comply with the demand contained in the FIRST supplemental and amended petition, a certified copy of which accompanies this citation, or to file your answer or other pleading to said supplemental and amended petition in the office of the Clerk of the 16th Judicial District Court in the St. Mary Parish Court House in the City of Franklin in said Parish within the time remaining for pleading to the original petition heretofore served upon you or within TEN (10) days after service hereof, whichever period is longer. Your failure to comply herewith will subject you to the penalty of entry of default judgment against you.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF OFFICE AT FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA, JANUARY 27, 2020.

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Charlene m Ceplace

Deputy Clerk of Court

SPACE BELOW FOR SHERIFF'S RETURN

CLIFF DRESSEL

CLERK, ST. MARY PARISH P. O. DRAWER1231 FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA 70538

Date Mailed: JANUARY 27, 2020

TO:

EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SHERIFF P. O. BOX 3277 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821-

TERRY MINOR SMITH

Vs. NO. 134314 DIV D

DOLGENCORP LLC DBA, ET AL

The following listed items have been issued for service. After service is made, please send your return stating the type of service along with your statement of cost. If service can not be made, please state reason. Thank you for your prompt attention.

<u>Supplemental Citation and Petition issued for service on:</u>
<u>DOLGENCORP LLC DBA THROUGH ITS REGISTERED AGENT</u>
<u>CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 501 LOUISIANA AVENUE</u>
BATON ROUGE LA 70802

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Chaulte m Uplac
Deputy Clerk of Court

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 1/27/2020 Seq: 35 Page Sequence: 1

NOTICE OF SERVICE

TERRYMINOR SMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div"D"

DOLGENCORPLLC DBA, ET AL



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
PARISH OF ST. MARY

THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ MAHFOUZ LAW FIRM, LLC P.O. BOX 2526 MORGAN CITY, LA 70381-2526

Pleading Served: SUPPLEMENTAL CITATION WITH FIRST SUPPLEMENAL AND

AMENDED PETITION

Party Served: DOLGENCORP LLC

Date Served: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 07, 2020

Type of Service: PERSONAL

Notified on: February 14, 2020

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Deputy Clerk of Court

Michelle B. Frederick

FOOTERAREA

SUPPLEMENTAL CITATION

TERRY MINOR SMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div "D"

DOLGENCORP LLC DBA, ET AL

1,8



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

To: DOLGENCORP LLC DBA THROUGH ITS REGISTERED AGENT

CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 501 LOUISIANA AVENUE BATON ROUGE

LA 70802

You are hereby cited to comply with the demand contained in the FIRST supplemental and amended petition, a certified copy of which accompanies this citation, or to file your answer or other pleading to said supplemental and amended petition in the office of the Clerk of the 16th Judicial District Court in the St. Mary Parish Court House in the City of Franklin in said Parish within the time remaining for pleading to the original petition heretofore served upon you or within TEN (10) days after service hereof, whichever period is longer. Your failure to comply herewith will subject you to the penalty of entry of default judgment against you.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF OFFICE AT FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA, JANUARY 27, 2020.

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Challen m Waller

Deputy Clerk of Court

SPACE BELOW FOR SHERIFF'S RETURN

I made service on the named party through the CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY

FEB 07 2020

FEB 07 2

FEB 14 2020

CLIFF DRESSEL CLERK OF COURT ST. MARY PARISH, LA

[ORIGINAL]

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/14/2020 Seq: 33 Page Sequence: 1

FAX CONFIRMATION

TERRYMINOR SMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div"D"

DOLGENCORPLLC DBA, ET AL



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED BY THIS FAX CONFIRMATION NOTICE THAT THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN FILED BY FACSIMILE.

DATE FAX TRANSMISSION RECEIVED: FEBRUARY18, 2020

DESCRIPTION OF PLEADING: EXCEPTIONS OF NO CAUSE OF ACTION AND LACK OF PROCEDURAL CAPACITY, MEMO IN SUPPORTAND ORDER

FILED ON BEHALF OF: DOLGENCORP, LLC

ATTORNEY SIGNING PLEADING: DANIELR. ESTRADA

This is to acknowledge that the above described facsimile transmission was received and filed on the date shown above as per LAR.S. 13:850.

The original pleading is to be forwarded within seven (7) days of this receipt together with the \$5.00 transmissionfee; \$15.00 fee for this receipt; the correct filing fee to cover the cost of filing and recording the facsimile copy as well as the original pleading and any balance of costs due. When the original pleading is received, the file mark will indicate the actual date it is received.

The recordwill contain the facsimile pleading, this receipt and the original pleading.

Receipt Acknowledged

Deputy Clerk of Court

Receipt faxed to number: 504-524-7887

Date receipt faxed: February 18, 2020

Fax Transmission Fee \$5.00

Fax Receipt Fee \$15.00

Filing Fee for Faxed Pleading(s) \$26.00

Filing Fee for Original Pleading (s) \$200.00

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$246.00

FOOTERAREA

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/18/2020 Seq: 29 Page Sequence: 1

Case 6:20-cv-01355-RRS-PJH Document 1-1 Filed 10/19/20 Page 15 of 49 PageID #: 21

Page 1 of 1 heb. 18. 2020 2:03PM

Courington, Kieter & Sommers LLC

No. 1692 P. 3

TERRY MINOR SMITH

CIVIL DOCKET NO. 134314 DIV. D

VERSUS

16TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

DOLLAR GENERAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

FILED:

FEB 1 8 2020

JENNIFER R. SPLANE

DEPUTY CLERK

EXCEPTIONS OF NO CAUSE OF ACTION AND LACK OF PROCEDURAL CAPACITY ON BEHALF OF DOLGENCORP, LLC

Now into court, through undersigned counsel, comes Defendant, Dolgencorp, LLC, improperly and incorrectly referred to as Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General, who asserts the Exceptions of No Cause of Action and Lack of Procedural Capacity as more fully explained in the attached memorandum.

Wherefore, Dolgencorp, LLC, prays that its Exceptions be maintained, and that the Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, amendments and claims be dismissed at Plaintiff's sole cost.

Respectfully Submitted:

COURINGTON, KIEFER, SOMMERS, MARULLO & MATHERNE, L.L.C.

KAYE N. COURINGTON (LSBA #18582) DANIEL R. ESTRADA (LSBA #26632)

616 Girod Street

New Orleans, LA 70130 Telephone: (504) 524-5510

Facsimile: (504) 524-7887

ATTORNEYS FOR DOLGENCORP, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing has been served upon counsel for all parties herein by depositing same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or via telefax transmission, this 18th day of February, 2020.

DANIEL R. ESTRADA

RECEIVED AND FILED

FEB 18 2020

(00518353.DOCX;1)

1

Dy. Clerk of Court

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/18/2020 Seq: 32 Page Sequence: 1

Case 6:20-cv-01355-RRS-PJH Document 1-1 Filed 10/19/20 Page 16 of 49 PageID #: 22

Page 1 of 3 reb. 18. 2020 2:03 PM

Courington, Kieter & Sommers LLC.-

No. 1692 P. 4

TERRY MINOR SMITH

CIVIL DOCKET NO. 134314 DIV. D

VERSUS

16TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

DOLLAR GENERAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

FILED:

FEB 1 B 2020

JENNIFER R. SPLANE

DEPUTY CLERK

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF EXCEPTIONS OF NO CAUSE OF ACTION AND LACK OF PROCEDURAL CAPACITY ON BEHALF OF DOLGENCORP, LLC

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Now into Court, through undersigned counsel, comes Dolgencorp, LLC, improperly and incorrectly referred to as Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General, who submits the following Memorandum in Support of its Exceptions.

I. FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

On October 25, 2019, the Plaintiff, Terry Minor Smith, filed a Petition for Damages alleging she was involved in a trip and fall incident at a Dollar General Store located at 17700 Hwy. 182 Baldwin, Louisiana. Named as Defendant is a non-existent, improper and incorrect entity, Dollar General. On January 24, 2020, in a First Supplemental and Amending Petition for Damages, the Plaintiff amended the Petition for Damages to read Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General in place of Dollar General. However, Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General is also a non-existent entity. Further, Dolgencorp, LLC, which is the proper name of this entity, is an improper and incorrect Defendant as it is not the owner and operator of the Dollar General store located at 17700 Hwy. 182 Baldwin, Louisiana. Rather, DG Louisiana, LLC is the proper Defendant as this entity owns and operates the Dollar General store.

Accordingly, Dolgencorp, LLC asserts the following Exception:

II. PEREMPTORY EXCEPTION OF NO CAUSE OF ACTION

Dolgencorp, LLC asserts the Peremptory Exception of No Cause of Action as the Plaintiff's Petition for Damages does not correctly name the proper party Defendant. Under Louisiana law:

A cause of action, when used in the context of the peremptory exception, is defined as the operative facts that give rise to the plaintiffs right to judicially assert the action against the defendant. Everything on Wheels Subaru. Inc. v. Subaru South, Inc., 616 So.2d 1234, 1238 (La. 1993). The function of an exception that raises the objection of no cause of action is to test the legal sufficiency of the petition by determining whether the law affords a remedy on the facts alleged in the petition. Ramey v. DeCaire, 03-1299 (La. 3/19/04), 869

(00518349.DOCX;2)

So.2d 114, 118. No evidence may be introduced to support or controvert the exception raising the objection of no cause of [Pg 7] action. LSA-C.C.P. art. 931. All facts pled in the petition must be accepted as true. Rebardi v. Crewboats. Inc., 04-0641 (La. App. 1st Cir. 2/11/05), 906 So.2d 455, 457. However, the jurisprudence recognizes an exception to this rule, which allows the court to consider [**11] evidence which is admitted without objection to enlarge the pleadings. Stephenson v. Nations Credit Fin. Services Corp., 98-1688 (La. App. 1st Cir. 9/24/99), 754 So.2d 1011, 1021. In reviewing the petition to determine whether a cause of action has been stated, the court must, if possible, interpret it to maintain the cause of action.

Here, the Plaintiff improperly and incorrectly named as Defendant a non-existent entity, Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General. Given that this this entity does not exist, Plaintiff does not have a cause of action.

Additionally, Dolgencorp, LLC, which is the proper name of this entity, is an improper and incorrect Defendant as it is not the owner and operator of the Dollar General store located at 17700 Hwy. 182 Baldwin, Louisiana where the Plaintiff alleges her incident occurred. In sum, it has nothing to do with the store. Rather, DG Louisiana, LLC is the proper Defendant as this entity owns and operates the Dollar General store. Therefore, the Plaintiff cannot have a cause of action against Dolgencorp, LLC based on these facts and information.

III. DILATORY EXCEPTION OF LACK OF PROCEDURAL CAPACITY

Dolgencorp, LLC asserts the Dilatory Lack of Procedural Capacity as the Plaintiff's Petition for Damages names a non-existent entity as Defendant who does not have the procedural capacity to be sued. Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General does not have the procedural capacity to be sued as it does not exist.

"Lack of procedural capacity is a dilatory exception which tests a party's legal capacity to bring an action or have one brought against it." Wells v. Fandal, 13-620 (La.App. 5th Cir. 2014) 136 So.3d 83, 90. Further, La. Civ. Code of Pro. Art. 739 states, "... a domestic of foreign limited liability company, or a domestic, foreign or alien insurer has the procedural capacity to be sued in its corporate or company name."

Further, the proper and correct name for the owner and operator of the alleged store where the Plaintiff's incident allegedly took place is DG Louisiana, LLC and not Dolgencorp, LLC. Therefore, Dolgencorp, LLC does not have the procedural capacity to be sued as it is not the owner or operator of the Dollar General store.

Page 3 of 3heb. 18. 2020 2:04PM

Courington, Kieter & Sommers LLC

No. 1692 P. 6

IV. CONCLUSION

For the aforementioned reasons, Dolgencorp, LLC, improperly and incorrectly referred to as Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General, prays that these Exceptions be maintained and that Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, amendments and claims be dismissed at Plaintiff's sole cost.

Respectfully Submitted:

COURINGTON, KIEFER, SOMMERS, MARULLO & MATHERNE, L.L.C.

KAYEN. COURINGTON (LSBA #18582)

DANIEL R. ESTRADA (LSBA #26632)

616 Girod Street

New Orleans, LA 70130 Telephone: (504) 524-5510 Facsimile: (504) 524-7887

ATTORNEYS FOR DOLGENCORP, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing has been served upon counsel for all parties herein by depositing same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or via telefax transmission, this 18th day of February, 2020.

DANIEL R. ESTRADA

RECEIVED AND FILED

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FEB 18 2020

Dv. Clerk of Court

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/18/2020 Seq: 31 Page Sequence: 3

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Case 6:20-cv-01355-RRS-PJH Document 1-1 Filed 10/19/20 Page 19 of 49 PageID #: 25

Page 1 of 5rep. [0. ZVZV Z: V4rM

Courington, Kleter & Sommers LLC

No. 1692 P. /

TERRY MINOR SMITH	CIVIL DOCKET NO. 134314 DIV. D	
VERSUS	16 TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT PARISH OF ST. MARY	
DOLLAR GENERAL	STATE OF LOUISIANA	
FILED: FEB 1 8 2020	JENNIFER R. SPLANE	
	DEPUTY CLERK	
<u>ORDER</u>		
Considering the foregoing Exceptions:		
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the plaintiff, Terry Minor Smith, appear and show		
cause on the of	, 2020 at o' clockm., why the	
Exceptions filed by Defendant, Dolgencorp, LLC, improperly and incorrectly referred to as		
Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General, should not be maintained and that the Plaintiff's Petition		
for Damages, amendments and claims be dismissed at Plaintiff's sole cost.		
, Louisiana this	_day of, 2020.	

JUDGE JAMES MCCLELLAND DIV. D

PLEASE SERVE:

Terry Minor Smith
Through her Attorney of record:
Thomas L. Mahfouz
Mahfouz Law Firm, L.L.C.
1201 Brashear Ave., FL. 2, Ste. 201
Morgan City, LA 70380

RECEIVED AND FILED

FEB 18 2020

Dy. Clerk of Court

(00518356_DOCX;1)

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/18/2020 Seq: 30 Page Sequence: 1

SUPPLEMENTAL CITATION

TERRY MINOR SMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div "D"

DOLGENCORP LLC DBA, ET AL

., ,



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

To: DOLGENCORP LLC DBA THROUGH ITS REGISTERED AGENT

CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 501 LOUISIANA AVENUE BATON ROUGE

LA 70802

You are hereby cited to comply with the demand contained in the FIRST supplemental and amended petition, a certified copy of which accompanies this citation, or to file your answer or other pleading to said supplemental and amended petition in the office of the Clerk of the 16th Judicial District Court in the St. Mary Parish Court House in the City of Franklin in said Parish within the time remaining for pleading to the original petition heretofore served upon you or within TEN (10) days after service hereof, whichever period is longer. Your failure to comply herewith will subject you to the penalty of entry of default judgment against you.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF OFFICE AT FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA, JANUARY 27, 2020.

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Challene m Celabic

Deputy Clerk of Court

SPACE BELOW FOR SHERIFF'S RETURN

I made service on the named party through the CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY

FEB 07 2020

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FEB 14 2020

CLIFF DRESSEL CLERK OF COURT ST. MARY PARISH, LA

[ORIGINAL]

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/14/2020 Seq: 33 Page Sequence: 1

TERRY MINOR SMITH

CIVIL DOCKET NO. 134314 DIV. D

VERSUS

16TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

DOLLAR GENERAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

FILED:

FEB 2.1 2020

MICHELLE FREDERICK

DEPUTY CLERK

EXCEPTIONS OF NO CAUSE OF ACTION AND LACK OF PROCEDURAL CAPACITY ON BEHALF OF DOLGENCORP, LLC

Now into court, through undersigned counsel, comes Defendant, Dolgencorp, LLC, improperly and incorrectly referred to as Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General, who asserts the Exceptions of No Cause of Action and Lack of Procedural Capacity as more fully explained in the attached memorandum.

Wherefore, Dolgencorp, LLC, prays that its Exceptions be maintained, and that the Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, amendments and claims be dismissed at Plaintiff's sole cost.

Respectfully Submitted:

COURINGTON, KIEFER, SOMMERS, MARULLO & MATHERNE, L.L.C.

KAYE N. COURINGTON (LSBA #18582) DANIEL R. ESTRADA (LSBA # 26632)

616 Girod Street

New Orleans, LA 70130 Telephone: (504) 524-5510 Facsimile: (504) 524-7887

ATTORNEYS FOR DOLGENCORP, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing has been served upon counsel for all parties herein by depositing same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or via telefax transmission, this 18th day of February, 2020.

RECEIVED AND FILED

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1

Dy. Clerk of Court
Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/21/2020 Seq: 26 Page Sequence: 1

TERRY MINOR SMITH

CIVIL DOCKET NO. 134314 DIV. D

VERSUS

16TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
PARISH OF ST. MARY

DOLLAR GENERAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

MICHELLE FREDERICK

DEPUTY CLERK

ORDER

Considering the foregoing Exceptions:

PLEASE SERVE:

Terry Minor Smith
Through her Attorney of record:
Thomas L. Mahfouz
Mahfouz Law Firm, L.L.C.
1201 Brashear Ave., FL. 2, Ste. 201
Morgan City, LA 70380

A FACSIMILE OF THIS PLEADING WAS RECEIVED AND FILED ON

FEB 18 2020

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Dy. Clerk of Court

(00518356,D0CX;1) Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/21/2020 Seq: 26 Page Sequence: 2

TERRY MINOR SMITH

CIVIL DOCKET NO. 134314 DIV. D

VERSUS

16TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

DOLLAR GENERAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

FILED: FEB 2 1 2020

MICHELLE FREDERICK

DEPUTY CLERK

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF EXCEPTIONS OF NO CAUSE OF ACTION AND LACK OF PROCEDURAL CAPACITY ON BEHALF OF DOLGENCORP, LLC

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Now into Court, through undersigned counsel, comes Dolgencorp, LLC, improperly and incorrectly referred to as Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General, who submits the following Memorandum in Support of its Exceptions.

I. FACTUAL AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

On October 25, 2019, the Plaintiff, Terry Minor Smith, filed a Petition for Damages alleging she was involved in a trip and fall incident at a Dollar General Store located at 17700 Hwy. 182 Baldwin, Louisiana. Named as Defendant is a non-existent, improper and incorrect entity, Dollar General. On January 24, 2020, in a First Supplemental and Amending Petition for Damages, the Plaintiff amended the Petition for Damages to read Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General in place of Dollar General. However, Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General is also a non-existent entity. Further, Dolgencorp, LLC, which is the proper name of this entity, is an improper and incorrect Defendant as it is not the owner and operator of the Dollar General store located at 17700 Hwy. 182 Baldwin, Louisiana. Rather, DG Louisiana, LLC is the proper Defendant as this entity owns and operates the Dollar General store.

Accordingly, Dolgencorp, LLC asserts the following Exception:

II. PEREMPTORY EXCEPTION OF NO CAUSE OF ACTION

Dolgencorp, LLC asserts the Peremptory Exception of No Cause of Action as the Plaintiff's Petition for Damages does not correctly name the proper party Defendant. Under Louisiana law:

A cause of action, when used in the context of the peremptory exception, is defined as the operative facts that give rise to the plaintiff's right to judicially assert the action against the defendant. Everything on Wheels Subaru Inc. v. Subaru South, Inc., 616 So.2d 1234, 1238 (La. 1993). The function of an exception that raises the objection of no cause of action is to test the legal sufficiency of the petition by determining whether the law affords a remedy on the facts alleged in the petition. Ramey v. DeCaire, 03-1299 (La. 3/19/04), 869

(00518349.DOCX;2)

So.2d 114, 118. No evidence may be introduced to support or controvert the exception raising the objection of no cause of [Pg 7] action. LSA-C.C.P. art. 931. All facts pled in the petition must be accepted as true. Rebardi v. Crewboats. Inc. 04-0641 (La. App. 1st Cir. 2/11/05). 906 So.2d 455, 457. However, the jurisprudence recognizes an exception to this rule, which allows the court to consider [**11] evidence which is admitted without objection to enlarge the pleadings. Stephenson v. Nations Credit Fin. Services Corp.. 98-1688 (La. App. 1st Cir. 9/24/99). 754 So.2d 1011. 1021. In reviewing the petition to determine whether a cause of action has been stated, the court must, if possible, interpret it to maintain the cause of action.

Here, the Plaintiff improperly and incorrectly named as Defendant a non-existent entity, Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General. Given that this this entity does not exist, Plaintiff does not have a cause of action.

Additionally, Dolgencorp, LLC, which is the proper name of this entity, is an improper and incorrect Defendant as it is not the owner and operator of the Dollar General store located at 17700 Hwy. 182 Baldwin, Louisiana where the Plaintiff alleges her incident occurred. In sum, it has nothing to do with the store. Rather, DG Louisiana, LLC is the proper Defendant as this entity owns and operates the Dollar General store. Therefore, the Plaintiff cannot have a cause of action against Dolgencorp, LLC based on these facts and information.

III. DILATORY EXCEPTION OF LACK OF PROCEDURAL CAPACITY

Dolgencorp, LLC asserts the Dilatory Lack of Procedural Capacity as the Plaintiff's Petition for Damages names a non-existent entity as Defendant who does not have the procedural capacity to be sued. Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General does not have the procedural capacity to be sued as it does not exist.

"Lack of procedural capacity is a dilatory exception which tests a party's legal capacity to bring an action or have one brought against it." Wells v. Fandal, 13-620 (La.App. 5th Cir. 2014) 136 So.3d 83, 90. Further, La. Civ. Code of Pro. Art. 739 states, "... a domestic of foreign limited liability company, or a domestic, foreign or alien insurer has the procedural capacity to be sued in its corporate or company name."

Further, the proper and correct name for the owner and operator of the alleged store where the Plaintiff's incident allegedly took place is DG Louisiana, LLC and not Dolgencorp, LLC. Therefore, Dolgencorp, LLC does not have the procedural capacity to be sued as it is not the owner or operator of the Dollar General store.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the aforementioned reasons, Dolgencorp, LLC, improperly and incorrectly referred to as Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar Genéral, prays that these Exceptions be maintained and that Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, amendments and claims be dismissed at Plaintiff's sole cost.

Respectfully Submitted:

COURINGTON, KIEFER, SOMMERS, MARULLO & MATHERNE, L.L.C.

KAYE N. COURINGTON (LSBA #18582) DANIEL R. ESTRADA (LSBA # 26632)

616 Girod Street

New Orleans, LA 70130 Telephone: (504) 524-5510 Facsimile: (504) 524-7887

ATTORNEYS FOR DOLGENCORP, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing has been served upon counsel for all parties herein by depositing same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or via telefax transmission, this 18th day of February, 2020.

DANIEL R. ESTRADA

RECEIVED AND FILED

A FACSIMILE OF THIS PLEADING WAS RECEIVED AND FILED ON

FEB 18 2020

{00518349.DOCX;2}

Multiply Clerk of Court

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/21/2020 Seq: 25 Page Sequence: 3

RECEIPT FOR SERVICES ISSUED CLERK'S OFFICE, ST. MARY PARISH 16TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

TERRY MINOR SMITH Vs. NO. 134314 DIV D DOLGENCORP LLC DBA, ET AL

Date Service Issued: February 24, 2020

Dy. Clerk: mbf

This will acknowledge receipt from the St. Mary Parish Clerk of Court's Office for service as follows:

Rule to Show Cause with Exceptions issued for service on: TERRY MINOR SMITH THROUGH HIS ATTORNEY, THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ 1201 BRASHEAR AVENUE, FL. 2, STE 201 MORGAN CITY, LA 70380

Date Received:	Time:	
By:		

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/24/2020 Seq: 22 Page Sequence: 1

TERRY MINOR SMITH

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

VS. NO. 134314 D

PARISH OF St. Mary

DOLLAR GENERAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

MOTION FOR LEAVE OF COURT TO FILE SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING PETITION

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel comes plaintiff, TERRY MINOR SMITH, who move this Honorable Court for an order granting him leave to file this Second Supplemental and Amending Petition.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff specifically requests leave of court to file the attached Second Supplemental and Amending Petition.

BY ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:

THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ #8837 Mahfouz Law Firm, L.L.C. 1201 Brashear Avenue, Suite 201 Post Office Box 2526 Morgan City, LA 70381 (985) 384-1833

RECEIVED AND FILED

FEB 24, 2020

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DY. CLERK OF COURT

Page 2 of 3

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ #8879

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Cane Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/24/2020 Seq: 19 Page Sequence: 2

Page 3 of 3 ·

TERRY MINOR SMITH 16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

VS. NO. 134314 D PARISH OF St. Mary

DOLLAR GENERAL STATE OF LOUISIANA

ORDER

Considering the foregoing,

IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff be allowed to file this Second Supplemental and Amending Petition.

ORDERED AND SIGNED in Franklin, St. Mary Parish, Louisiana on this 26

DISTRICT JUDGE

RECEIVED AND FILED

FEB 2 4 2020

OY. CLERKOF COURT

Page 1 of 2 '

TERRY MINOR SMITH

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

VS. NO. 134314 D

PARISH OF St. Mary

DOLLAR GENERAL

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PLAINTIFF'S Second SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING PETITION

The Second Supplemental and Amending Petition of TERRY MINOR SMITH,
Plaintiff herein, who desires to supplement and amend her Original Petition filed herein, in the
following respects:

 By amending the Petition in all places where the defendant's name is referred to as "DOLLAR GENERAL", and/or," DOLGENCORP, LLC d/b/a DOLLAR GENERAL", to read "DG LOUISIANA, LLC.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, reiterating the prayer of her original Petition as set forth in length herein, prays that she be allowed to file this Second Supplemental and Amending Petition, and that Defendants be served with a copy of this Second Supplemental and Amending Petition and cited to answer same within the legal delays allowed by law, then, after the lapse of all legal delays and due proceedings had that there be judgment herein in favor of Plaintiff, TERRY MINOR SMITH, and against Defendants, DG LOUISIANA, LLC, in a reasonable amount to compensate them for the damages which she has sustained herein. Plaintiff further prays for such other legal and equitable relief.

BY ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:

THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ #8877 Mahfouz Law Firm, L.L.C. 1201 Brashear Avenue, Suite 201 Post Office Box/2526 Morgan City, LA 70381 (985) 384-1833

PLEASE SERVE DEFENDANT WITH THE *ORIGINAL* PETITION, *FIRST* SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING PETITION, and *SECOND* SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING PETITION:

DG Louisiana, LLc through its agent for service of process, Corporation Service Company 501 Louisiana Avenue Baton Rouge, LA 70802

RECEIVED AND FILED

FEB 24 2020

MUMUL YWY JULY

DY. CLERK OF COURT

Page 2 of 2

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that the foregoing has been served on counsel of record by placing copies of same in the United States mail, postage prepaid and properly addressed, on this the 19 day of 4, 2020.

THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ #8877

RECEIVED AND FILED

FEB 2 4 2020 MUMUN MULLIA CA DY. CLERKOF COURT

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/24/2020 Seq: 18 Page Sequence: 2

CITATION

TERRYMINORSMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div"D"

DG LOUISIANA,LLC, ET AL



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

To: DG LOUISIANA, LLC THROUGH REGISTERED AGENT CORPORATION
SERVICE COMPANY 501 LOUISIANA AVENUE BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

You are hereby cited to comply with the demand contained in the petition, First and Second Supplemental and Amended Petition, a certified copy of which accompanies this citation or to file your answer or other pleading to said petition in the office of the Clerk of the 16th Judicial District Court in the St. Mary Parish Court House in the City of Franklin in said Parish within fifteen (15) days after the service hereof. Your failure to comply herewith will subject you to the penalty of entry of default judgment against you.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF OFFICE AT FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA, FEBRUARY 27, 2020.

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Michelle J. Frederick

Deputy Clerk of Court

SPACE BELOW FOR SHERIFF'S RETURN

CLIFF DRESSEL

CLERK, ST. MARY PARISH P. O. DRAWER1231 FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA 70538

Date Mailed: FEBRUARY 27, 2020

TO:

EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SHERIFF P. O. BOX 3277 BATON ROUGE, LA 70821-

TERRY MINOR SMITH

Vs. NO. 134314 DIV D

DG LOUISIANA, LLC, ET AL

The following listed items have been issued for service. After service is made, please send your return stating the type of service along with your statement of cost. If service can not be made, please state reason. Thank you for your prompt attention.

Citation with Original, First and Second Supplemental and Amended Petitions issued for service on: DG LOUISIANA, LLC THROUGH REGISTERED AGENT CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 501 LOUISIANA AVENUE BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Midwell & Judench Deputy Clerk of Court

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/27/2020 Seq: 15 Page Sequence: 1

NOTICE OF SERVICE

TERRYMINOR SMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div"D"

DG LOUISIANA, LLC, ET AL



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISHOF ST. MARY

DANIEL R ESTRADA COURINGTON, KIEFER & SOMMERS, LLC P. O. BOX 2350 NEW ORLEANS, LA 70176

Pleading Served: RULE TO SHOW CAUSE - MAY 4, 2020

Party Served: TERRY MINOR SMITH

Date Served: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2020

Type of Service: DOMICILIARY - DEPARTMENTAL JAMIE DULANEY

Notified on: March 5, 2020

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Deputy Clerk of Court

Bucky B. Haydel

FOOTERAREA

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 3/5/2020 Seq: 10 Page Sequence: 1

RULE TO SHOW CAUSE



TERRY MINOR SMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div "D"

DOLGENCORP LLC DBA, ET AL



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

To: TERRY MINOR SMITH THROUGH HIS ATTORNEY, THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ 1201 BRASHEAR AVENUE, FL. 2, STE 201 MORGAN CITY, LA 70380

By virtue of an order, issued in the above numbered and entitled matter, out of the Hon. 16th Judicial District Court, bearing date <u>February 24, 2020</u>.

You are hereby ordered to show cause, if any you have, in open Court, in the St. Mary Courthouse, Main Street, Franklin, Louisiana, at 10:00 A.M. on MAY 4, 2020.

WHY

The Exceptions filed by Defendant, Dolgencorp, LLC, improperly and incorrecly referred to as Dolgencorp, LLC d/b/a Dollar General, should not be maintained and that the Plaintiff's Petition for Damages, amendments and claims be dismissed at Plaintiff's sole cost.

In accordance with the allegations and prayer for the issuance of this rule, a true and correct attested copy whereof accompanies this rule and is served herewith.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF OFFICE AT FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA, FEBRUARY 24, 2020.



CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Midwell & Anderde

Deputy Clerk of Court

NOTICE: NO CELL PHONES, I-PADS, RECORDING, OR-OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES OR CAMERAS ARE ALLOWED ON COURTROOM FLOOR. EXCEPTION: COURT OFFICERS AND STAFE.

CLIFF DRESSEL CLERK OF COURT

CONTROL

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 3/4/2020 Seq: 9 Page Sequence: 1

Page 2 of 2

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Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 3/4/2020 Seq: 9 Page Sequence: 2

NOTICE OF FIXING CASE FOR TRIAL

TERRYMINOR SMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div "D"

DOLGENCORPLLC DBA, ETAL



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISHOF ST. MARY

DANIELR ESTRADA
COURINGTON, KIEFER & SOMMERS, LLC
P. O. BOX 2350
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70176

THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ MAHFOUZ LAW FIRM, LLC P.O. BOX 2526 MORGAN CITY, LA 70381-2526

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above entitled and numbered matter has been fixed for trial on the <u>Exceptions filed on behalf of Dolgencorp.</u>
<u>LLC</u> on <u>MAY 4, 2020</u> at <u>10:00</u> A.M. in Franklin, Louisiana before Judge <u>LEWIS H. PITMAN, JR.</u> as a — fixing.

Uniform Rules requires that you file for all exceptions and motions a pretrial memorandum at least fifteen (15) calendar days before the hearing. Opposition memorandums shall be filed at least eight (8) calendar days before the hearing. Any reply memorandums must be received by Judge and all parties before 4:00 p.m. on a day that allows one (1) full work day before the hearing.

All motions for summary judgment must comply with CCP Article 966-B.

Failure to file and distribute the memorandum outlined shall subject said party to assessment of costs by the Court or to be otherwise disciplined.

It is the obligation of the attorney for plaintiff to notify the Docket Clerk and the Trial Judge when a case is settled or continued by mutual agreement.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF OFFICE AT FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA, FEBRUARY 24, 2020.

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Michelle B. Frederick

Deputy Clerk of Court

NOTICE: NO CELL PHONES, I-PADS, RECORDING, OR OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES OR CAMERAS ARE ALLOWED ON COURTROOM FLOOR. EXCEPTION: COURTOFFICERS AND STAFF.

FOOTERAREA

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 2/24/2020 Seq: 21 Page Sequence: 1

CITATION

TERRY MINOR SMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div "D" DG LOUISIANA, LLC, ET AL



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISH OF ST. MARY

To: DG LOUISIANA, LLC THROUGH REGISTERED AGENT CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY 501 LOUISIANA AVENUE BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

You are hereby cited to comply with the demand contained in the petition, First and Second Supplemental and Amended Petition, a certified copy of which accompanies this citation or to file your answer or other pleading to said petition in the office of the Clerk of the 16th Judicial District Court in the St. Mary Parish Court House in the City of Franklin in said Parish within fifteen (15) days after the service hereof. Your failure to comply herewith will subject you to the penalty of entry of default judgment against you.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL OF OFFICE AT FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA, FEBRUARY 27, 2020.

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Midwell J. Frederick

Deputy Clerk of Court

SPACE BELOW FOR SHERIFF'S RETURN

made service on the named party through the Personal On One Legal Dept.

Domicillary Corp. Service Agent

MAR 1 1 2020

by tendering a copy of this document to Emily Fields Rhonds Weldon

Other.

ELEANOR STEWART 0769

East Baton Rouge Sherliffs Office

RECEIVED

MAR 16 2020

CLIFF DRESSEL CLERK OF COURT ST. MARY PARISH, LA

[ORIGINAL]

-Case Number: 134314 Transaction Bate: 3/16/2020 Seq. 7 Page Sequence: 1

NOTICE OF SERVICE

TERRYMINOR SMITH

Vs. No. 134314 Div"D"

DG LOUISIANA, LLC, ET AL



STATE OF LOUISIANA

16th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

PARISHOF ST. MARY

THOMAS L. MAHFOUZ MAHFOUZ LAW FIRM, LLC P.O. BOX 2526 MORGAN CITY, LA 70381-2526

Pleading Served: CITATION AND FIRST AND SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL AND

AMENDED PETITION

Party Served: DG LOUISIANA, LLC

Date Served: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2020

Type of Service: PERSONAL

Notified on: March 17, 2020

CLIFF DRESSEL Clerk of Court St. Mary Parish, Louisiana 16th Judicial District Court

Deputy Clerk of Court

Becky B. Haydel

FOOTERAREA

Case Number: 134314 Transaction Date: 3/17/2020 Seq: 6 Page Sequence: 1

Case 6:20-cv-01355-RRS-PJH Document 1-1 Filed 10/19/20 Page 40 of 49 PageID #: 46

Page 1 of 9Apr. 21, 2020 2:28PM Courington, Kieter & Sommers LLC

No. 2043

TERRY MINOR SMITH

16TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

VERSUS

FILED:

PARISH OF ST. MARY

DG LOUISIANA, LLC

STATE OF LOUISIANA

NO.: 134314 DIVISION "D"

APR 2 1 2020

JENNIFER R. SPLANE

DEPUTY CLERK

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES AND ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF'S, TERRY MINOR SMITH, ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DAMAGES, SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING PETITION FOR DAMAGES AND SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING PETITION FOR DAMAGES ON BEHALF OF DG LOUISIANA, LLC

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Defendant, DG Louisiana, LLC, improperly and incorrectly named and referred to as Dollar General and Dolgencorp, LLC, and who submits the following Affirmative Defenses and Answer to Plaintiff's Original Petition for Damages and amendments:.

It is admitted that Defendant is a foreign limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana. The remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 1 of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied for lack of information to justify a belief therein.

II.

The allegations contained in Paragraph II of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

III.

The allegations contained in Paragraph III of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

IV.

The allegations contained in Paragraph IV of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

٧.

The allegations contained in Paragraph V of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

Page 2 of 9 Apr. 21, 2020 2:28 PM Courington, Kieter & Sommers LLC

No. 2045 r. 4

VI.

The allegations contained in Paragraph VI of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

VII.

The allegations contained in Paragraph VII of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments and subparts (a) through (h) are denied.

VIII.

The allegations contained in Paragraph VIII of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

IX.

The allegations contained in Paragraph IX of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments and subparts (a) through (g) are denied.

X.

The allegations contained in the "Wherefore" Paragraph of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

AND NOW, for further answer to Plaintiff's Original Petition for Damages and amendments, Defendant, DG Louisiana, LLC, improperly and incorrectly named and referred to as Dollar General and Dolgencorp, LLC, avers as follows:

FIRST DEFENSE

Plaintiff's Original Petition for Damages and amendments fail to state a claim and/or cause and/or right of action upon which relief can be granted.

SECOND DEFENSE

The claims asserted herein, in whole or part, are prescribed and/or perempted and/or are barred by the applicable statute of limitations, by prescription, and by the Doctrine of Laches.

THIRD DEFENSE

Defendant affirmatively denies that the alleged injuries and/or alleged damages were caused by any conduct of Defendant, whether by omission, commission, or on the basis of strict liability, negligence, vicarious liability, assault, or otherwise.

FOURTH DEFENSE

It is further averred that in the event it is found that the injury and/or damages claimed 2 [00539521.DOCX;1]

herein are or were the result of (whether in whole and/or in part), pre-existing/unrelated disabilities and/or injuries and/or illnesses or any aggravation thereof, for which Defendant is not and was not responsible, then, in that event, Defendant avers that it is entitled to a reduction of damages by reason of such pre-existing illnesses and/or injuries and/or disabilities.

FIFTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically avers the failure to mitigate damages, as a consequence of which any recovery herein is either totally barred and/or, in the alternative, must be reduced. In the further alternative, Defendant avers that the claims for damages herein have not accrued, are purely speculative, uncertain and contingent.

SIXTH DEFENSE

Defendant asserts that the Plaintiff's injuries, if any, were caused by a pre-existing or post-developing unrelated medical condition, disease, illness or infection for which this Defendant is not responsible.

SEVENTH DEFENSE

Defendant asserts that the injuries alleged to have been sustained by Plaintiff was the result of an intervening or supervening cause.

EIGHTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically pleads that the conditions alleged herein were caused by the negligent, wanton, careless or unreasonable conduct of third-parties for whom Defendant is not and was not responsible.

NINTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically pleads herein the defenses available under the Louisiana Merchant Liability Statute, La. R.S. 9:2800.6 et seq. and the Louisiana Civil Code.

TENTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically pleads herein the defenses available under the La. Civ. Code Articles 2317, 2317.1 and 2322 and the Louisiana Civil Code.

ELEVENTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically pleads herein the doctrine of comparative fault, as contained in La. Civ. Code Art. 2323, and is entitled to a reduction in the amount for which it may be held liable

(00539521,DOCX;1)

Page 4 of 9 Apr. 21. 2020 2:28YM

Courington, Kieter & Sommers LLC

No. 2043 r. b

in judgment in accordance with the degree or percentage of fault and/or negligence attributable to plaintiff or to any and all other persons and legal entities.

TWELTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically pleads herein La. Civ. Code Art. 2324 and denies that it is solidarily liable with any other person, party or third-party. Therefore, Defendant shall not be liable for more than its degree of fault and shall not be solidarily liable with any other person for damages attributable to the fault of such other person, including the person suffering injury, death, or loss, regardless of such other person's insolvency, ability to pay, degree of fault, immunity by statute or otherwise, including but not limited to immunity as provide by R.S. 23:1032, or that the other person's identity is not known or reasonably ascertainable.

THIRTEENTH DEFENSE

The condition complained of by the Plaintiff was "open and obvious."

FOURTEENTH DEFENSE

Defendant requests a trial by jury.

WHEREFORE, Defendant, DG Louisiana, LLC, improperly and incorrectly named and referred to as Dollar General and Dolgencorp, LLC, respectfully prays that its Answer and Affirmative Defenses to Plaintiff's, Terry Minor Smith, Original Petition for Damages and amendments be deemed good and sufficient and that, after due proceedings, there be judgment rendered in its favor and against Plaintiff, dismissing Plaintiff's Original Petition for Damages and amendments, at her cost and with prejudice, and for all other general and equitable relief.

Respectfully Submitted:

COURINGTON, KIEFER, SOMMER, MARULLO & MATHERNE, L.L.C.

KAYEN. COURINGTON (LSBA #18582) DANIEL R. ESTRADA (LSBA # 26632)

616 Girod Street

New Orleans, LA 70130

Telephone: (504) 524-5510 Facsimile: (504) 524-7887

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT,

DG LOUISIANA, LLC

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Page 5 of 9 Apr. 21. 2020 7:28 PM Courington, Kieter & Sommers LLC

No. 2043 Y. 1

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing has been served upon counsel for all parties herein by depositing same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or via telefax transmission, this 21st day of April, 2020.

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TERRY MINOR SMITH

16TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

VERSUS

PARISH OF ST. MARY

DG LOUISIANA, LLC

STATE OF LOUISIANA

NO.: 134314 DIVISION "D"

FILED: APR 2 4 2020

JENNIFER R. SPLANE

DEPUTY CLERK

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES AND ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF'S, TERRY MINOR SMITH, ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DAMAGES, SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING PETITION FOR DAMAGES AND SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL AND AMENDING PETITION FOR DAMAGES ON BEHALF OF DG LOUISIANA, LLC

NOW INTO COURT, through undersigned counsel, comes Defendant, DG Louisiana, LLC, improperly and incorrectly named and referred to as Dollar General and Dolgencorp, LLC, and who submits the following Affirmative Defenses and Answer to Plaintiff's Original Petition for Damages and amendments:.

1.

It is admitted that Defendant is a foreign limited liability company authorized to do and doing business in the State of Louisiana. The remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 1 of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied for lack of information to justify a belief therein.

Π.

The allegations contained in Paragraph II of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

Ш.

The allegations contained in Paragraph III of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

IV.

The allegations contained in Paragraph IV of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

V.

The allegations contained in Paragraph V of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

VI.

The allegations contained in Paragraph VI of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

VII.

The allegations contained in Paragraph VII of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments and subparts (a) through (h) are denied.

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The allegations contained in Paragraph VIII of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments are denied.

IX.

The allegations contained in Paragraph IX of the Original Petition for Damages and amendments and subparts (a) through (g) are denied.

X.

The allegations contained in the "Wherefore" Paragraph of the Original Petition for .

Damages and amendments are denied.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

AND NOW, for further answer to Plaintiff's Original Petition for Damages and amendments, Defendant, DG Louisiana, LLC, improperly and incorrectly named and referred to as Dollar General and Dolgencorp, LLC, avers as follows:

FIRST DEFENSE

Plaintiff's Original Petition for Damages and amendments fail to state a claim and/or cause and/or right of action upon which relief can be granted.

SECOND DEFENSE

The claims asserted herein, in whole or part, are prescribed and/or perempted and/or are barred by the applicable statute of limitations, by prescription, and by the *Doctrine of Laches*.

THIRD DEFENSE

Defendant affirmatively denies that the alleged injuries and/or alleged damages were caused by any conduct of Defendant, whether by omission, commission, or on the basis of strict liability, negligence, vicarious liability, assault, or otherwise.

FOURTH DEFENSE

It is further averred that in the event it is found that the injury and/or damages claimed

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herein are or were the result of (whether in whole and/or in part), pre-existing/unrelated disabilities and/or injuries and/or illnesses or any aggravation thereof, for which Defendant is not and was not responsible, then, in that event, Defendant avers that it is entitled to a reduction of damages by reason of such pre-existing illnesses and/or injuries and/or disabilities.

FIFTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically avers the failure to mitigate damages, as a consequence of which any recovery herein is either totally barred and/or, in the alternative, must be reduced. In the further alternative, Defendant avers that the claims for damages herein have not accrued, are purely speculative, uncertain and contingent.

SIXTH DEFENSE

Defendant asserts that the Plaintiff's injuries, if any, were caused by a pre-existing or post-developing unrelated medical condition, disease, illness or infection for which this Defendant is not responsible.

SEVENTH DEFENSE

Defendant asserts that the injuries alleged to have been sustained by Plaintiff was the result of an intervening or supervening cause.

EIGHTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically pleads that the conditions alleged herein were caused by the negligent, wanton, careless or unreasonable conduct of third-parties for whom Defendant is not and was not responsible.

NINTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically pleads herein the defenses available under the Louisiana Merchant Liability Statute, La. R.S. 9:2800.6 et seq. and the Louisiana Civil Code.

TENTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically pleads herein the defenses available under the La. Civ. Code Articles 2317, 2317.1 and 2322 and the Louisiana Civil Code.

ELEVENTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically pleads herein the doctrine of comparative fault, as contained in La. Civ. Code Art. 2323, and is entitled to a reduction in the amount for which it may be held liable

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in judgment in accordance with the degree or percentage of fault and/or negligence attributable to plaintiff or to any and all other persons and legal entities.

TWELTH DEFENSE

Defendant specifically pleads herein La. Civ. Code Art. 2324 and denies that it is solidarily liable with any other person, party or third-party. Therefore, Defendant shall not be liable for more than its degree of fault and shall not be solidarily liable with any other person for damages attributable to the fault of such other person, including the person suffering injury, death, or loss, regardless of such other person's insolvency, ability to pay, degree of fault, immunity by statute or otherwise, including but not limited to immunity as provide by R.S. 23:1032, or that the other person's identity is not known or reasonably ascertainable.

THIRTEENTH DEFENSE

The condition complained of by the Plaintiff was "open and obvious."

FOURTEENTH DEFENSE

Defendant requests a trial by jury.

WHEREFORE, Defendant, DG Louisiana, LLC, improperly and incorrectly named and referred to as Dollar General and Dolgencorp, LLC, respectfully prays that its Answer and Affirmative Defenses to Plaintiff's, Terry Minor Smith, Original Petition for Damages and amendments be deemed good and sufficient and that, after due proceedings, there be judgment rendered in its favor and against Plaintiff, dismissing Plaintiff's Original Petition for Damages and amendments, at her cost and with prejudice, and for all other general and equitable relief.

Respectfully Submitted:

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ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT,

DG LOUISIANA, LLC

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing has been served upon counsel for all parties herein by depositing same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or via telefax transmission, this 21st day of April, 2020.

Daniel R. Estrada

A FACSIMILE OF THIS PLEADING WAS RECEIVED AND FILED ON

APR 21 2020

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by. Clerk of Court

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